



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6248.0.55.002 - Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia, 2017-18 Quality Declaration

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 08/11/2018

8 November 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Embargo: 11.30 am (Canberra time)

Mild wage growth in public sector

The public sector saw mild growth in both wages and the number of employees in 2017-18, according to new data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today.

Bruce Hockman, Chief Economist at the ABS, said that across the three levels of government, there was a 1.5 per cent increase in the number of employees between 2017 and 2018.

"Total public sector cash wages and salaries also increased by 4.0 per cent over the same period," said Mr Hockman.

"The strongest growth has been in state government organisations, with employment increasing by 2.0 per cent and total cash wages and salaries increasing by 4.7 per cent."

This collection covers public sector organisations, including Commonwealth and state/territory government organisations, local government authorities, public corporations, universities, non-profit institutions controlled by the government, government marketing boards, legislative courts, municipal authorities and other statutory authorities.

Further details are available in Employment and Earnings, Public Sector 2017-18 (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002), available for free download from the ABS website <https://www.abs.gov.au>.

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This page last updated 6 November 2019

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